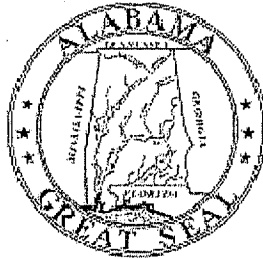


Office of the Governor

**BOB RILEY**  
Governor



STATE OF ALABAMA

Press Office

March 12, 2009

## Governor Riley Discusses Results of Export Alabama, Outlines State's Trade Strategy for 2009 and Honors Companies for Success in Exporting

MONTGOMERY – Governor Bob Riley will discuss the results of the Export Alabama initiative, outline the state's 2009 strategy to promote economic growth through exports, and will recognize seven Alabama companies and the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce during a ceremony on Thursday, March 12 at the State Capitol.

Last month, Governor Riley announced exports from Alabama increased to \$15.8 billion in 2008, a 10 percent increase over 2007. Companies in the state shipped their products to 192 countries last year, with the top five destination markets being Germany, Canada, Mexico, China and Japan.

Governor launched Export Alabama in 2004. It brings together the Alabama Development Office, the Export Alabama Alliance and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce into a statewide effort to promote the growth of exported goods and services from Alabama companies.

The eight companies being honored with the Governor's Trade Excellence Award for their success with exporting are:

- Atrion Medical Products based in Arab
- Moreson Conferencing based in Birmingham
- Nidek Medical Products based in Birmingham
- N-TRON Corp. based in Mobile
- PlayCore based in Fort Payne
- PPG Industries based in Huntsville
- Rescue One Connector Boats based in Huntsville
- The Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce

Leslie Schweitzer, Senior Trade Advisor for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce will also make a special presentation recognizing Alabama's success in exports.